

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL
COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form
Number

74-0-4-1	Hanover		HNS.190
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Town/City: Hanson
Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Photograph



Address: 270 County Road
Historic Name: John A. and Almira Whiting House
Uses: Present: Single-Family Dwelling
Original: Single Family Dwelling
Date of Construction: ca.1830-1856
Source: White's History of Hanson, Plan 6, Number 26
Style/Form: Altered/Cape
Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:
Foundation: Concrete
Wall/Trim: Wood Clapboard/Wood
Roof: Asphalt Shingle
Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
Wood board privacy fence and wood garden shed to east of house

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Vinyl replacement windows, additions to east and west facades, original center chimney removed

Condition: Good
Moved: no ☐ 1965 yes ☒ **Date:**
Acreage: .69 Acres

Setting: Located on one of Hanson's main thoroughfares (Route 14) in a sparsely settled area of predominantly single-family homes on large lots which includes grass lawns surrounded by numerous mature trees, bushes, and other vegetation.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Lara Kritzer, JM Goldson
community preservation + planning
Organization: Hanson Historical Commission
Date (*month / year*): June 2018

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☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The one-and-a-half story Cape style house was moved to this site from Liberty Street in the 1960s and the additions to its east and west facades do not appear to predate its relocation. The main house has a steeply pitched asphalt shingled gable roof over tall, almost one-and-a-half story gable facades. The eaves are trimmed in wood on the gable facades and project out slightly on the gable-end facades, where they are finished with a wide, flat wood board that curves out at its lower end into box style returns. The facades are wood clapboard sided with flat wood cornerboards and cornice. The double hung windows have all been replaced with vinyl replacement windows that are six-over-six in style.

The house faces north towards the road and is set back somewhat from the street behind an open grass lawn. The original Cape is located at the center of the building and the additions to either side are set back several feet from the front façade. The simply detailed entrance is located at the center of the façade. A wide wood board with a narrow projecting top edge extends over the entrance and slightly beyond the wood pilasters which extend down around either side of the door. The pilasters have narrow capitals and wider bases but are restrained in their detailing. The entrance door is a solid wood replacement door with a large four part window at its top over a paneled lower half. The entrance opens onto a low wood landing and stairs which lead to a brick walkway that extends to the driveway. To the left of the door are two double hung windows and a single window is centered on the façade to the right. All three windows have decorative shutters installed on the siding to either side of the window frames.

On the east façade, a long, low one-story gable roofed addition extends out from the southeast corner of the building. The gable roof changes pitch on its north slope to extend out in a long shed-style roof over an open porch which spans the north façade of the addition. The porch has a wide wood cornice set just below the roof edge and is supported by square wood columns. A side entry similar to the front door is visible within the porch to the left of a double hung window. A second set of wood steps leads from the porch to the brick walkway between the driveway and front door. The east façade of the addition lacks the projecting gable-end seen on the main house and has a simple band of wood trim around its outer edge. On the east façade of the main house, a double hung window is located to the right of the addition on both floors.

The west façade of the original building matches that of the east façade with the exception that the first floor window is also surrounded by shutters. The west façade addition is shorter and taller than the east façade addition, with a larger gable roof that has a peak which is set behind the south slope of the main house. The gable roof overhangs the facades below in a manner similar to the main house, but without the cornice detail and trim surrounding the west façade's gable-end. Two double hung windows, each with shutters, are located on the south façade of the addition. On the west façade, a tall three-part casement window is centered on the façade below a large semi-circular transom window.

The house is located at the center of a relatively flat lot surrounded by mature trees and vegetation. A wide asphalt paved driveway is located along the east property line, ending just short of the front façade of the

Continuation sheet 2

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house. A wood board fence extends from the northeast corner of the addition to the east property line with a wide opening at its center surrounded by taller wood posts. A prefabricated wood garden shed is located behind the fence to the southeast of the house. A wood lamppost is located in front of the house next to the brick walkway. A line of bushes and mature trees runs along the north property line separating the house form the street.

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HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

White's History of Hanson states that this house was originally located on Liberty Street and was moved in 1965 to make way for the existing Shaw's Market and shopping center. White believed that the house was built between 1830 and 1856 by J. Addison Whiting, who installed the elm trees in front of the house and lived here for a number of years before selling it to Andrew Bowker and C.P. Boline (Bolin), a cigar maker. John Addison Whiting (1811-1903) was a Hanson native who is listed as a farmer in the state and federal censuses of the 1850s and 1860s. John had married Almira Fish in 1833, and presumably built the house, or had the house built, sometime thereafter. There is no sign of the house on the 1830 Smith Plan, but the 1856 Walling Map shows the house as being located on the south side of Liberty Street, in roughly the location of the current shopping center, and belonging to J. Whiting. In 1857, Whiting sold this land and its buildings to Andrew Bowker and moved farther north on Liberty Street to a property on the east side of the street. Andrew Bowker (1828-1891) was a merchant who was appointed in 1962 as the Hanson postmaster. Andrew owned a number of properties in Hanson and it is unclear whether he and his wife, Betsey, lived at this property or at another during their ownership of the property. In 1873, Bowker sold the house to Handy Harris, who sold it in 1874 to Carl P. Bolin, the cigar maker noted in White's history.¹ Bolin had immigrated from Sweden in 1865 with his wife, Helga, and is listed as a farmer in both state and federal censuses from the 1860s through 1880. Bolin does not appear to have taken up cigar making as a profession until the late 1880s after his move to Abington. C.P. Bolin is shown as living here on the 1879 Richards Atlas, but by 1885 the property had been passed on to Bethia Keene. Nancy Crooker inherited the property from Keene shortly thereafter. Mrs. Crooker is listed as the owner of the property on the 1903 Richards Atlas, and as a divorced woman living on her own in the 1900 U.S. Census.

Nancy Crooker sold the property in 1907 to George C. Hobart, a lumber dealer.² Hobart only owned the property for a few years before selling it to Howard M. Chandler in 1910.³ According to the 1910 U.S. Census, Chandler was then a single man working as the foreman at a cranberry bog and living with a servant, Edith L. Turner Myers. Howard and Edith married in August of that same year and in 1913, Chandler sold the house to Clarice and James Beverly.⁴ The Beverleys stayed for five years then sold the house in 1918 to William and Louise Bachelder.⁵ On his WWI draft registration card, William is listed as an auto repair man and chauffeur who worked for the National Fireworks Company in Hanover. The couple also only lived on Liberty Street for a few years before selling the house to Sarah and Charles Dudley in 1922 and moving to East Bridgewater.⁶ The Dudleys sold the property the following year to Cora A. and John Parsell. John Parsell was from Ohio and had married Cora A. Oliver in Boston in 1886. The couple ran a poultry farm on the property through the rest of the 1920s according to the 1930 U.S. Census, but it is unclear whether Cora continued the farm after John's death in 1932. In 1938, Cora sold the property to Elsa and Harold L. Braley. The Braleys had moved to Liberty Street from the Monponsett section of Hanson and Harold is listed in the 1940 U.S. Census as a Civil Engineer. In the 1950s, he appears in City Directories as a transit man for the NYNH&H railroad. The Braleys continued to live in the house until Harold's death in 1963, after which Elsa sold the property to the Brockton Public Market.⁷ At the time the Brockton Public Market was in the process of purchasing multiple properties along Liberty Street for the development which would later house Shaws Market and its surrounding stores. A decision was made to relocate

¹ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 410, Page 159

² Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 952, Page 160

³ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1060, Page 284

⁴ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1187, Page 461

⁵ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1300, Page 512

⁶ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1408, Page 18

⁷ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1447, Page 89

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the house to a new site, and in 1964, Brockton Public Market purchased the property at 270 County Road from Doris and Francis Cox. The house was relocated that same year and sold to Patricia Gallerani.⁸ Gallerani lived in the house until 1991, when it was sold to John and Joan Burns. The Burns only lived here a few years, selling it in 1995 to Gregory and Andrea Fall, who sold it themselves in 1996 to current owners John Josselyn and Kathryn Wright.⁹

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⁸ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 3130, Page 39

⁹ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 14619, Page 306

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